

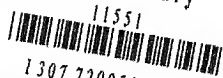
# SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGE IN A U.P. VILLAGE

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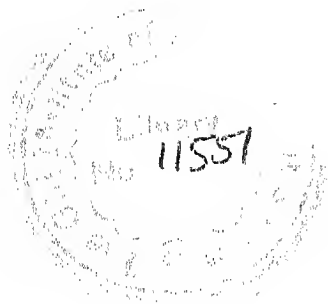
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**SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGE**  
**IN A**  
**U.P. VILLAGE**

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SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGE IN A U.P. VILLAGE

Y.P. Singh\*

I. Introduction

Since the beginning of the planning era, the country in general and the rural areas in particular have experienced a kind of acceleration and change in the development process. The changes are quite evident but some times it is alleged that the changes have been biased in favour of certain areas, regions and groups of people. It is therefore important to look into the process of socio-economic change in order to ascertain the impact of development on different regions and areas.

In this paper an attempt has been made to analyse the pattern of socio-economic change in a fast-growing part of the state of Uttar Pradesh. We have selected Saharanpur district, which is one of the more developed districts of the state, as the subsequent discussion makes clear. In analysing the pattern and process of development and change in a fast growing area we have tried to relate the dynamics of the development process at the district level with those at the village level. For this purpose we have selected a fairly large sized and agriculturally prosperous village viz. Rankhandi. Our objective is to find out to what extent the pattern of dynamic growth and change at the district level is also accompanied by a similar pattern at the village

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\* I am grateful to Prof. B.K. Joshi for his valuable guidance without which it would not have been possible for me to finalise this working paper.

level. In other words we wish to examine whether the process of inter-regional differences is meaningful only in relation to regions as a whole or it is also to be seen within the developing regions, especially in relation to rural and urban areas. It is for this reason that we have selected a developed district of U.P. and a village which is agriculturally dynamic. Our main concern therefore is to find out whether the characteristics of development and change are similar or divergent at the district and village levels, and if they are different then the possible reasons for the difference.

## II. A Glance at the District

The district of Saharanpur lies in the northern half of Meerut division between Dehradun and Muzaffarnagar districts. It forms the northern most portion of the Ganga-Yamuna Doab; the two rivers forming its eastern and western boundaries respectively. It is separated in the north from district Dehradun by the Sivaliks, in the east from district Bijnor by the river Ganga, in the west from Haryana by river Yamuna, and in the south, it is contiguous with district Muzaffarnagar, separated by a conventional boundary which lies between  $29^{\circ} 34'$  and  $30^{\circ} 24'$  north latitude and  $77^{\circ} 7'$  and  $87^{\circ} 12'$  east longitude. The area of the district is 5591 sq. kms. The district has four tehsils viz. Saharanpur, Nakur, Deoband and Roorkee.

### (i) Population and Literacy

The population of the district was 26,73,653 and the density of population 478 persons per sq. km. according to the 1981 Census. The population has increased from 13.54 lakhs in



1951 to 16.15 lakhs in 1961 and further to 20.55 lakhs in 1971. Thus the per cent growth for the decades 1951-61, 1961-71 and 1971-81 works out to 19.30, 27.20 and 30.12 respectively. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constituted 21.35 per cent of the population in 1951, 23.50 per cent in 1961, 23.41 per cent in 1971 and 22.04 per cent in 1981. The growth of SC/ST population was much higher than that of the total population during 1951 to 1961. It decreased somewhat during 1971 to 1981.

The rate of literacy in the district was 20 per cent in 1961 which increased to 23.4 per cent in 1971 and 29.47 per cent in 1981. The literacy rate in the district was higher than that of the state which was 27.40 per cent in 1981. Though both male and female literacy rates have increased in the district between 1961 and 1981 the rate of increase has been much higher in the case of female literacy. Male literacy was 38.97 per cent and female literacy 18.05 per cent in the district in 1981, whereas the corresponding percentages for the state were 38.90 and 14.42 respectively. Thus female literacy is much higher in the district as compared to the State.

(ii) Economy : (a) Industry

Saharanpur district is economically one of the most advanced districts in the State. This is evident from figures of per capita output in 1978-79 given in Table 1. During this year the per capita output in Saharanpur was Rs.852, as compared to only Rs.598 in the state as a whole.

Table 1 : Per Capita Net Output and Share of Major Sectors in Net Output in 1978-79 (Commodity Producing Sectors only)

	Per Capita Output (in Rs.)	(Current Prices)	
		% Share in Total Output	
		Agriculture and Allied	Manufacturing (Regd. and Unregd.)
Saharanpur	852.44	58.1	41.2
Uttar Pradesh	598.18	79.5	18.0

Source : (1) U.P. - Planning Department, Draft Annual Plans, 1983-84.

(2) U.P., Area Planning Division, State Planning Institute, District-wise Indicators of Development, August 1983.

The share of total output originating in the agricultural and manufacturing sectors was 58.1 and 41.2 per cent respectively in the district. This may be compared with the corresponding figures of 79.5 and 18.0 per cent respectively for U.P. It is thus quite clear that compared to the state, industry contributes a much larger share to the net domestic output of the district.

The strength and importance of the industrial sector in the district is also evident from the data on total number of industries, total industrial employment, value and production, per worker industrial output and per unit employment in 1980-81 presented in Table 2. It will be seen that out of a total of 5480 industries in the state which figure in the Annual Survey of Industries in 1980-81, 15% (284) were located in Saharanpur district. Similarly industrial employment in Saharanpur (40533) came to 5% of the state total. However, the share of the district in total industrial production in the state was much higher viz. 8%.



Table 2 : Industrial Output and Employment in Saharanpur District and U.P. during 1980-81

District/ State	Total No. of industries from which return received	Employ- ment	Value of product- ion (in lakh Rs.)	Per work- er indus- trial out- put (in lakh Rs.)	Per unit employ- ment
Saharanpur	284	40533	28323.17	0.70	143
Uttar Pradesh	5480	772982	344964.83	0.45	141

Source : Annual Survey of Industries, U.P. 1980-81, Economic and Statistics Division, State Planning Institute, U.P.

(b) Agriculture

According to the census data the percentage of cultivators shows a marginal decline between 1971 and 1981 i.e. from 36.06 to 34.94 respectively whereas in the case of agricultural labour there was an increase i.e. from 26.88 in 1971 to 28.45 per cent in 1981. Another category which declined is that of workers engaged in household industries from 10.68 to 3.23 per cent during the same period. The category of other workers increased from 26.38 per cent to 33.38 per cent during 1971 to 1981. The participation of work-force in the economy of the district may be seen in Table 3.

Table 3 : Workers Break-up in Percentage to Total Workers in Saharanpur District

Category of workers	1971	1981
Cultivators	36.06	34.94
Agriculture Labour	26.88	28.45
Manufacture Workers in Household Industries	10.68	3.23
Other Workers	26.38	33.38

Source : Based on Census Data.

According to Table 4 marginal holdings constituted 48.58 per cent of all holdings in Saharanpur in 1970-71 while the area under such holdings was only 10.17 per cent of the area of all holdings. As compared with this in 1976-77 both the number and area of such holdings increased. Small farmers operated 20.15 per cent of the holdings and 15.19 per cent of the area in 1970-71. Their share of holdings declined to 19.16 per cent in 1976-77 while the area operated increased to 16.70 per cent. Proportion of holdings in the semi-medium category decreased but the percentage of area under these holdings increased between 1970-71 and 1976-77.

Table 4 : Distribution of Numbers and Area of Operational Holdings in Saharanpur District 1970-71 and 1976-77

Classification of Holdings (in Ha.)	Number of Holdings		Operational Area under Holdings	
	1970-71	1976-77	1970-71	1976-77
Marginal (Upto 1.0)	96690 (48.58)	126434 (54.34)	38654 (10.17)	49927 (13.17)
Small (1.0 - 2.0)	40105 (20.15)	44579 (19.16)	57723 (15.19)	63308 (16.70)
Semi-Medium (2.0 - 4.0)	35828 (18.00)	36823 (15.83)	101585 (26.72)	104750 (27.64)
Medium (4.0 - 10.0)	23175 (11.64)	22511 (9.68)	136474 (35.90)	129822 (34.26)
Large (10.0 +)	3232 (1.63)	2317 (0.99)	45690 (12.02)	31190 (8.23)

Source : Agricultural Census 1976-77, Operational Holdings in U.P., Revenue Board, Lucknow.

Note : Figures given in parantheses denote percentages to total.

During this period there was a decline in the share of medium and large holdings both in terms of number and area. The decline was more marked in the case of large holdings. It appears that

this decline does not represent a redistribution of land but has been influenced by the ceiling legislation of 1971 and the transfer of land by large owners to their family members in order to escape the provisions of the ceiling law.

Table 5 : Percentage Increase/Decrease in Area Under Different Crops : Saharanpur District, 1950-51 to 1980-81

Period/Major Crops	1950-51 - 1960-61	1960-61 - 1970-71	1970-71 - 1980-81
Rice	+ 35.49	- 2.53	+ 20.71
Wheat	- 0.58	+ 47.52	+ 11.27
Millets	- 9.68	+ 1.86	- 33.46
Pulses	- 22.49	- 46.88	- 38.81
Oil Seeds	+ 28.69	+108.18	+ 44.96
Sugarcane	+ 68.99	+ 14.10	+ 21.61
Potato	+ 84.25	- 9.74	+ 40.79

Source : Computed from Uttar Pradesh Ke Krishi Ankare, Agriculture Directorate of U.P., Lucknow.

The changes in areas under different crops is given in Table 5. During 1950-51 to 1960-61 the percentage of area under rice, oilseeds, sugarcane and potato increased while the area under wheat, millets and pulses decreased. During the next decade the area under oilseeds increased in a big way (i.e. by 108.18 per cent). Area under wheat and millets also increased (47.52 and 1.86 per cent respectively) as compared to the previous decade, while the area under other crops decreased. In this decade the area under potato and rice declined considerably. During the decade 1970-71 to 1980-81 rice again got importance alongwith potato and sugarcane. As a result of this we can say that farmers are concentrating on the production of major foodgrains

(wheat and rice) and commercial crops (oilseeds, potato and sugarcane). The importance of small millets and pulses has been declining in the cropping pattern.

The yield per hectare of important crops for the period 1950-51 to 1980-81 is shown in Table 6.

Table 6 : Average Yield of Major Crops in Saharanpur District

Major Crops	(Yield in metric tonnes per ha.)			
	1950-51	1960-61	1970-71	1980-81
Rice	0.64	0.94	1.14	1.66
Wheat	0.91	0.86	1.25	1.79
Millets	0.67	0.53	0.86	0.80
Pulses	0.56	0.68	0.49	0.50
Oilseeds	1.10	0.66	0.55	0.81
Sugarcane	36.25	42.69	41.37	52.53
Potato	8.05	8.07	9.39	16.39

Source : Computed from Uttar Pradesh Ke Krishi Ankare, Agriculture Directorate of U.P., Lucknow.

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Average yield of rice, wheat, millets, sugarcane and potato has increased significantly between 1950-51 and 1980-81. Pulses and oilseeds productivity shows a fluctuating trend during this period though overall there has been a decline. Average yield of rice increased from 0.64 to 1.66, of wheat from 0.91 to 1.79, of millets from 0.67 to 0.80, of sugarcane from 36.25 to 52.53 and of potato from 8.05 to 16.79 metric tonnes per hectare during this period of thirty years. This implies that farmers are using modern technology in agriculture.

The details of irrigation facilities and their coverage are given in Table 7.

Table 7 : Area Irrigated by Different Sources in  
Saharanpur District

Sources	(Area in ha.)				
	1960-61	1965-66	1970-71	1975-76	1979-80
Canals	71275 (64.19)	77249 (56.74)	82328 (42.04)	81418 (36.92)	82978 (31.87)
Tubewells	13172 (11.86)	31333 (23.01)	90554 (46.23)	128545 (58.30)	174735 (67.12)
Other wells	26279 (23.67)	27185 (19.96)	22420 (11.45)	10177 (4.62)	2055 (0.79)
Other Sources	317 (0.28)	400 (0.29)	556 (0.28)	342 (0.16)	573 (0.22)
Net Irrigated Area	111043 (100.00)	136166 (100.00)	195867 (100.00)	220482 (100.00)	260341 (100.00)
Area Irrigated more than once	16433 (14.80)	26596 (19.53)	65923 (33.66)	74073 (33.60)	112558 (43.23)

Source : Uttar Pradesh Ke Krishi Ankare, Agriculture Directorate, U.P., Lucknow. Figures in brackets represent percentages.

The canal irrigation area of the district has increased from 71275 hectares in 1960-61 to 82978 hectares in 1979-80. However in relative terms the importance of canal irrigated area has declined during the same period. Thus while in 1960-61, 64.19 per cent of all irrigated area was irrigated by canals, the corresponding figure was only 31.87 per cent in 1979-80. Similarly the proportion of area irrigated by other wells has also declined significantly from 23.67 per cent in 1960-61 to 0.79 per cent in 1979-80.

Tubewells on the other hand have become the major source of irrigation over the years. During 1960-61 this source covered 11.86 per cent of the net irrigated area while in 1979-80 its share went up to 67.12 per cent. This shows that farmers have been increasingly adopting this source. An important point that emerges from Table 7 is that the net irrigated area more than doubled between 1960-61 and 1979-80 from about 1.1 lakh hectares

to about 2.6 hectares. Area irrigated more than once has also increased from 14.80 per cent to 43.23 per cent during this period showing an increase in the intensity of irrigation.

Table 8 : Percentage of Gross Irrigated Area to Gross Cropped Area for Major Crops in Saharanpur District

Major Crops	1950-51	1960-61	1970-71	1980-81
Rice	48.81	45.62	65.86	NA
Wheat	28.72	22.10	67.39	77.09
Millets	1.61	9.20	3.49	3.41
Pulses	3.86	4.17	8.70	7.16
Oilseeds	5.44	0.87	2.26	3.56
Sugarcane	49.03	52.21	67.06	84.98
Potato	87.75	71.85	96.32	96.92

Source : Computed from Uttar Pradesh Ke Krishi Ankare, Agriculture Directorate of U.P., Lucknow.

Table 8 gives details of irrigated area under various crops as a percentage of gross cropped area. In the case of rice 48.81 per cent of gross cropped area was irrigated in 1950-51, which decreased to 45.62 per cent in 1960-61 and again increased to 65.86 per cent in 1970-71. In the case of wheat 77.09 per cent of the area was irrigated in 1980-81 as compared to only 28.72 per cent in 1950-51.

The two other important crops in terms of irrigation intensity are sugarcane and potato. In both these cases the gross irrigated area as a per cent of gross cropped area have increased between 1950-51 and 1980-81. The increase in this percentage was from 49.03 in 1950-51 to 84.98 in 1980-81 in the case of sugarcane and from 87.75 to 97.92 in the case of potato. Only a small part of the area under millets is irrigated reaching



a maximum of 9.2 per cent in 1960-61 and it further shows wide fluctuation in different periods.

### (c) Infrastructure

For the present discussion it will be appropriate to highlight the level of infrastructural development in the district and compare it with the state as a whole. The length of pucca roads was 19.1 kms. per 100 sq. km. of area and 39.46 kms. per lakh of population in the district during 1981-82. The length of road per 100 sq. km. of area per lakh of population in the state was 21.8 kms. and 58.02 kms. respectively during the same period. In this respect, therefore, the district lags behind the state.

Power plays an important role in economic development. Agriculture and industrial productivity is mainly based on the availability of power. In Saharanpur district 58 per cent of all inhabited villages have been electrified. This is higher than the state average of 46 per cent. Consumption of electricity in agriculture was 24.26 per cent of total consumption in the district as compared to 28.04 per cent in the state during 1979-80. Per capita consumption of electricity was 140 kwh in Saharanpur as compared to only 90 kwh in the state as a whole.

After discussing the economic profile of the district in brief we move to a discussion of village level data.

### III. Choice of Village and Its Salient Features

The village 'Raukhandi' which we have selected forms part of the highly developed tehsil of Deoband in Saharanpur district. This village has been chosen because :

1. It is a fairly large one in terms of population and area.
2. It is relatively advanced as far as socio-economic conditions are concerned.

The village Rankhandi consists of eight mazras, namely - Hasipur, Muradpur, Mirzapur, Abdullapur, Habibullapur, Rasulpur, Akhlore Kheri and Thamna. Of these six mazras are uninhabited and only two viz. Akhlore Kheri and Thamna mazras alongwith Rankhandi proper are inhabited. The area of the village is 22.67 sq. kms. The nearest town Deoband is 8 kms. from Rankhandi proper and Rasulpur mazra, while the other mazras are situated 5 to 11 kms. from Deoband. The district headquarter Saharanpur is about 37 kms. from the village. This village is at a distance of 8 kms from the main Saharanpur-Muzaffarnagar road. The main means of transport are private buses and tongas which are frequently available between the village and tehsil and district headquarters. The village is well linked with communications. The people of the village generally use baggis (tongas) and tractors for transportation. The Hindan river is about 7 kms. from this village, while the railway line passes very near to it. Near Deoband railway station there is the Nanauta cooperative sugar mill.

(a) Social Features

(i) Population

The changes in the population between 1971 and 1981 are given in Table 9.

Table 9 : Distribution of Population by Sex and Caste and Decennial Growth of Population in Rankhandi Village, 1971 and 1981

Census and Population	Village		
	Male	Female	Total
1971 Total population	4650	3952	8602
1971 % of Scheduled Caste	22.06	22.80	22.40
1981 Total population	5646	4906	10552
1981 % of Scheduled Caste	21.70	19.18	20.53
Decennial growth of population (1971-1981)	21.42	24.14	22.67

Source : Census 1971 and the records of census office for the year 1981.

According to the 1971 census, the total population of the village was 8602 and consisted of 1294 households. The population increased to 10643 in 1981. Scheduled caste population was 22.40 per cent of the total in 1971. It decreased to 20.53 in 1981 though in absolute terms there was an increase of 239 persons in this period. The decennial growth rate of male population was 21.42 per cent, and of female population 24.14 per cent. The growth of the village population was 22.67 per cent as against 30.12 per cent in Saharanpur district during 1971-81.

The sex ratio in Rankhandi village was 850 females per 1000 males in 1971 which increased to 869 in 1981.

#### (ii) Literacy

The overall literacy percentage in the village was 34.73 in 1971. Male literacy percentage was 34.73 and female literacy was zero. The literacy percentage is shown in Table 10 below.

Table 10 : Literacy Percentage in Rankhandi Village

Census and Literacy	Literates		
	Male	Female	Total
1971 No. of literates	1615	-	1615
1971 % of literacy	34.73	-	34.73
1981 No. of literates	2526	1013	3539
1981 % of literacy	44.74	20.65	33.54

Source : Census 1971 and the records of census office for the year 1981.

During 1971 to 1981, literates have increased in number, but slight decrease is found in percentage. Literacy among males is also higher i.e. 44.74. What is remarkable in the case of Rankhandi village is the tremendous increase in the percentage of female literacy. Whereas in 1971 there were no literate females, in 1981 their number was 1013 which came to 20.65 per cent of the female population. This is even higher than corresponding figure for Saharanpur district (18.06 per cent).

During the last decade more parents have started sending their children, specially girls, to schools and the adult education programme has also promoted literacy.

#### Other Main Amenities

##### a) Drinking Water

Drinking water is a basic need of rural people. In Rankhandi village the main sources of drinking water are wells and handpumps. There is as yet, no arrangement for tap water supply.

b) Electricity

Electricity plays a pivotal role in socio-economic development of an area. This village is electrified and about 40 per cent of the villagers used electricity for domestic purposes in 1981.

c) Rural Industries

There is no major industry in this village except 4 atta chakkies and 2 oil expellers which are all operated by electricity. One brick kiln unit also exists near the village. It has created employment opportunities for the villagers.

d) Rural Artisans

There were only 6 carpenters and lohars to serve the local needs of the villagers. This appears inadequate to cater to the needs of a highly populated village. They mainly make agricultural implements. In recent years there has been a decline in spinning and weaving industry specially silk weaving which was an important activity in the past. At present only 4 households are engaged in weaving.

e) Marketing Facilities

The existence of marketing facilities are an important indicator of economic development because in their absence farmers do not get a reasonable price for their agricultural produce. In this village however, we see that good marketing facilities are available. A developed market is situated in Deoband which is only 7 kms. away. Sugarcane, which is an important produce the village, is consumed by the Nanota Cooperative Sugar Mill which is situated at a distance of 6 kms. Therefore, farmers do not have to travel a long distance for selling their produce.

A post-office with phone facility is within the village while mazra Akhlore Kheri also has a post-office. The villagers are using these postal facilities and have also opened savings accounts in the post-office. One branch of Bank of India is also located in the village.

(a) Economic Features

(i) Workforce Distribution

The distribution of the workforce is given in Table 11.

Table 11 : Activity-wise Percentage Distribution of Workforce : Male and Female Workforce in Rankhandi Village

Category		1971	1981
Cultivators	M	55.32	54.78
	F	18.18	5.68
	T	54.96	53.24
Agricultural Labours	M	19.74	29.00
	F	-	72.73
	T	19.55	30.38
Household Industries	M	6.53	0.66
	F	36.36	3.41
	T	6.82	0.75
Other Services	M	9.54	15.15
	F	40.91	18.18
	T	9.84	15.64
Total Workers	M	2265 (100.0)	2707 (100.0)
	F	22 (100.0)	88 (100.0)
	T	2287 (100.0)	2795 (100.0)

Source : Census 1971 and the records of census office for the year 1981.

The percentage of workers to total population in the village was 26.59 in 1971 which decreased marginally in 1981. The main category of workers consist of cultivators. In this category there was a slight decline from 54.96 per cent in 1971 to 53.24 per cent in 1981. It will be seen that the percentage of cultivators in the village is higher than in the district. Further



among this category males are dominant constituting over 99 per cent of the class both in 1971 and 1981.

The percentage of agriculture labourers to total workforce increased between 1971 and 1981. They constituted 19.55 per cent of the workforce in 1971 and 30.38 per cent in 1981 in the village. However, while there were no women among agricultural labourers in 1971, they formed 7.54 per cent of population of agricultural labourers in 1981.

Cottage and household industries have played an important role in the rural economy. The workers engaged in household industries in the village was 6.82 per cent in 1971. By 1981 this percentage had come down to 0.75 per cent. This shows that the household industries are declining in importance and workforce engaged in it is joining the ranks of agricultural labourers while some persons migrate out. It is evident from the above table that only a few of families are engaged in household industries.

The proportion of total workforce engaged in other services increased between 1971 and 1981. The total workforce was 2287 of which 2265 were male and 22 female (or 99.04 per cent and 0.96 per cent respectively) in 1971. The 1981 census shows that percentage of male workers decreased from 99.04 to 96.85 while female workers participation increased from 0.96 to 3.15 during the decade in the village.

#### (ii) Land Holdings

The distribution of land holdings of different types i.e. marginal, small, medium and large are presented in Table 12.

Table 12 : Number and Percentage of Operational Holdings  
Under Different Categories During 1971 in  
Village Rankhandi and Saharanpur District

Category of Holdings	Number of Holdings	
	Rankhandi	Saharanpur
Marginal (Upto 1 ha.)	496 (39.5)	96690 (48.58)
Small (1 - 2 ha.)	284 (22.6)	40105 (20.15)
Medium (2 - 4 ha.)	367 (29.2)	35828 (18.00)
Large (Over 4 ha.)	110 (8.7)	26407 (13.27)
Total	1257 (100.0)	199030 (100.00)

Source : Tehsil records.

The proportion of marginal holdings to the total was 39.5 per cent while the share of small holdings was 22.6 per cent. Medium category holdings constituted 29.2 per cent of the total which is higher than the percentage of small holdings. Large holdings and an 8.7 per cent share in holdings. Total number of operational holdings was 1257 in village.

In the district marginal holdings constituted 48.58 per cent of all holdings. The percentage share of small, medium and large holdings in all landholdings was 20.15, 18.00 and 13.27 respectively. If we compare the distribution of landholdings in the village with that in the district we find that small holdings constituted 22.6 per cent of all landholdings which is higher than the district. Similarly medium holdings cover 29.2 per cent as compared to 18.00 per cent in the district.

The village has a distinct position in terms at distribution of operational holdings across different farm size groups. It has a higher proportions of medium and small holdings in comparison to the district, while marginal and large size holdings shares are less. The proportion of medium and small holdings is higher in U.P. as compared to the district and the village. Thus the distribution of land holdings appears to be more even in the district and the village selected as compared to the state.

(iii) Land Use Pattern and Source-wise Irrigation

In table 13 we have discussed land use pattern as well as irrigated area by source. In 1971 the net cropped area was 89.25 per cent of total reporting area which increased to 90.96 per cent in 1981. This increase was due to the decline in the area of cultivable waste. The area which was not available for cultivation increased from 5.53 per cent to 7.57 per cent during these 10 years. This was due to the increase in the area under habitation as a result of increasing population. There is no land under forest in the village. The role of irrigation in increasing agricultural productivity is undisputable. It is an essential requirement in modern agricultural technology. The importance of irrigation by surface water in agriculture has long been recognised, but in recent years Indian agriculture has come to depend more and more upon ground water supply. Agriculture can no longer be left to the vagaries of the monsoon because it is uncertain. It is well known that in western U.P. the traditional sources of irrigation are losing their importance and modern sources of irrigation are widely used by agriculturists. This is also true of Rankhandi village as can be seen from Table 13.

Table 13 : Land Use Pattern and Source-wise Irrigation  
in Rankhandi Village

		(Area in Ha.)			
Land use pattern and source-wise irrigation		1971		1981	
		Area	Percent-age	Area	Percent-age
Source-wise irrigated area	Govt. canal	607.04	40.40*	1201.57	62.04*
	Tubewell	108.07	7.19*	679.07	35.06*
	Tubewell with electricity	787.55	52.41*	56.25	2.90*
Net irrigated area		1502.66	65.86	1936.89	84.99
Unirrigated area		533.80	23.39	135.97	5.97
Cultivated area		2036.46	89.25	2072.86	90.96
Cultivable waste		118.98	5.21	33.60	1.47
Area not available for cultivation		126.27	5.53	172.41	7.57
Forest		-	-	-	-
Total reporting area		2281.71	100.00	2278.87	100.00

Source : Census 1971 and the records of census office for the year 1981.

Note : The figures with asterisk denote percentage of irrigated area through different sources to net irrigated area.

The above table shows that net irrigated area was 85.86 per cent in 1971 which increased to 84.99 per cent in 1981. In 1981 government canals irrigated 62.04 per cent of the area as compared to 40.40 per cent in 1971 recording a growth of 19.64 per cent during the last decade. Tubewells as a source of irrigation came next in importance in 1981 and covered 35.06 per cent of the irrigated area as compared to only 7.19 per cent in 1971.

It is evident from the above table that the dependence upon electrically operated tubewells has gone down from 52.41% to 2.90% in Rankhandi village. At the same time canal irrigated area increased from 40.40% to 62.4% over the period 1971 to 1981. A significant increase in the area irrigated by diesel pump sets is

also seen during the same period. Area under diesel pump set irrigation increased from 7.19% to 35.06% between 1971 and 1981. With the above statistics the inference can be drawn that due to erratic supply of electricity and frequent break-downs the farmers of the village prefer to depend upon diesel operated pump sets and canals to meet their irrigation requirements as they have greater control over them.

In Table 14, land use pattern as well as irrigated area by source has been shown mazra-wise in Rankhandi village. There are nine masras, namely Hasipur, Muradpur, Mirzapur, Abdullahpur, Rankhandi, Habibullapur, Rasulpur, Akhlore Kheri and Thamna. The table shows that between 1971 and 1981 cultivated area increased by 36.40 ha., cultivable waste land decreased from 118.98 to 33.60 ha. area not available for cultivation increased from 126.27 to 172.41 ha., and irrigated area increased from 1502.66 to 1937.39 ha. in Rankhandi village.

Cultivated area was highest in Rankhandi mazra i.e. 40.72 per cent of the total village area followed by Akhlore Kheri, Thamna, Habibullapur, Mirzapur, Hasipur, Rasulpur, Abdullahpur and Muradpur both in 1971 and in 1981. Cultivated land decreased in Mirzapur, Rankhandi, Rasulpur, Akhlore Kheri and Thamna Mazras. Cultivable waste increased in Hasipur from 7.48 to 12.05 ha., in Rasulpur from 1.03 to 3.60 ha., in Akhlore Kheri from 11.90 to 31.34 ha. and in Thamna from 6.46 to 24.08 ha. between 1971 and 1981. Area not available for cultivation has decreased in all mazras of Rankhandi except Rankhandi proper and Abdullahpur. Irrigated area has increased in all mazras of Rankhandi village

Table 14 : Land Use Pattern in Different Mazras of Village Rankhandi and Source-wise Irrigation 1971

Mazras of Village	Canal	TWE	TW	Net irri-gated area	Unirri-gated area	Cultiva-ted area vable waste	Area not available for culti- vation	Total
Hazipur		65.56 (8.32)	-	65.56 (4.36)	56.66 (10.61)	122.22 (6.00)	3.24 (2.57)	134.36 (5.89)
Muradpur	97.53 (16.07)	-	-	97.53 (6.49)	4.45 (0.83)	101.98 (5.01)	4.86 (3.85)	112.10 (4.91)
Mirzapur	131.12 (21.60)	-	-	131.12 (8.73)	4.86 (0.91)	135.98 (6.68)	2.43 (1.92)	139.22 (6.10)
Abdullahpur	94.70 (15.60)	-	12.15 (11.24)	106.85 (7.11)	2.02 (0.38)	108.87 (5.35)	1.62 (1.28)	125.06 (5.48)
Rankhandi	-	701.75 (89.11)	-	701.75 (46.70)	127.43 (23.88)	829.23 (40.72)	89.03 (70.51)	961.16 (42.12)
Habibullapur	132.74 (21.87)	-	-	132.74 (8.83)	16.19 (3.03)	148.93 (7.31)	3.64 (2.88)	176.04 (7.72)
Rasulpur	70.01 (11.53)	-	-	70.01 (4.66)	49.37 (9.25)	119.38 (5.86)	2.43 (1.92)	123.03 (5.39)
Akhlore Kheri	-	-	55.44 (51.30)	55.44 (3.69)	195.07 (36.54)	250.51 (12.30)	9.71 (7.69)	274.38 (12.03)
Thamna	80.94 (13.33)	20.24 (2.57)	40.48 (37.46)	141.66 (9.43)	77.70 (14.56)	219.36 (10.77)	9.31 (7.37)	236.36 (10.36)
Total	607.04 (100.00)	787.55 (100.00)	108.07 (100.00)	1502.66 (100.00)	533.80 (100.00)	2036.46 (100.00)	126.27 (100.00)	2281.71 (100.00)

Source : Census 1971.

Note : TWE stands for Tubewell with Electricity  
TW stands for Tubewell

contd.....



Table 14 (contd.)

Land Use Pattern in Different Mazras of Village Rankhandi and Source-wise Irrigation 1981

Mazras of Village	Canal	TWE	TW	Net irri-gated area	Unirri-gated area	Cultiva-ted area	Culti-vable waste	(Area in ha.)	
								Area not available for culti-vation	Total
Hasipur	100.77 (8.39)	-	14.66 (2.16)	115.43 (5.96)	12.05 (8.89)	127.48 (6.15)	4.05 (12.05)	2.83 (1.64)	134.36 (5.90)
Muradpur	102.79 (8.55)	-	-	102.79 (5.31)	2.83 (2.09)	105.62 (5.10)	1.22 (3.63)	4.05 (2.35)	110.89 (4.87)
Mirzapur	135.98 (11.32)	-	-	135.98 (7.02)	1.22 (0.90)	137.20 (6.62)	-	2.02 (1.17)	139.22 (6.11)
Abdullahpur	120.60 (10.04)	-	-	120.60 (6.22)	-	120.60 (5.82)	-	2.43 (1.41)	123.03 (5.40)
Rankhandi	361.41 (30.08)	56.25 (100.00)	348.04 (51.21)	765.70 (39.52)	51.80 (38.24)	817.50 (39.44)	8.50 (25.30)	135.56 (78.63)	961.56 (42.19)
Habibullapur	159.86 (13.30)	-	10.93 (1.61)	170.79 (8.82)	2.01 (1.48)	172.80 (8.34)	-	3.24 (1.88)	176.04 (7.72)
Rasulpur	60.71 (5.05)	-	55.44 (8.16)	116.15 (6.00)	3.24 (2.39)	119.39 (5.76)	1.21 (3.60)	2.43 (1.41)	123.03 (5.40)
Akhlore Kheri	16.59 (1.38)	-	182.92 (26.92)	199.51 (10.30)	54.23 (40.03)	253.74 (12.24)	10.53 (31.34)	10.11 (5.86)	274.38 (12.04)
Thamna	142.86 (11.89)	-	67.58 (9.94)	210.44 (10.86)	8.09 (5.97)	218.52 (10.54)	8.09 (24.08)	9.74 (5.65)	236.36 (10.37)
Total	1201.57 (100.00)	56.25 (100.00)	679.57 (100.00)	1937.39 (100.00)	135.47 (100.00)	2072.86 (100.00)	33.60 (100.00)	172.41 (100.00)	2278.87 (100.00)

Source : Records of census office for the year 1981.

Note : TWE stands for Tubewell with Electricity

TW stands for Tubewell

between 1971 and 1981. It is an interesting point that canals irrigated an area of 607.04 ha. in 1971 which increased to 1201.59 ha. in 1981. Further in all the mazras area irrigated by tube-wells has increased except in Abdullahpur. It can be concluded that farmers of Rankhandi village are using modern means of irrigation.

#### (iv) Social Services

There were 5 primary schools and 1 higher secondary school in Rankhandi village in 1971 as well as in 1981. The pre-university course were also started during 1981. This shows that educational facilities are considerable in this village. As a result the literacy percentage increased from 18.15 per cent to 33.54 per cent between 1971 and 1981 which is quite an impressive achievement. Female education shows an even more remarkable progress in the village during the same period. In 1971 there were no literate women whereas in 1981 there were 1013 of them which constitutes 20.65 per cent of the total females of the village.

There is one dispensary in the village to provide medical facilities to the villagers. Two private registered practitioners also provide medical services to the people of the village. Unfortunately, there is as yet, no programme of child welfare, family planning etc. in the village.

#### Conclusion

The foregoing discussion clearly indicates, that Saharanpur district is economically advanced especially when we compare it to the state as a whole. This is evident from the fact that per capita output in Saharanpur is higher than the state average. It is also

worth noting that while agriculture and industry area both well developed in Saharanpur, the economy of the district shows a higher level of diversification than that of the state. Thus, we find that the relative shares of agriculture and industry in domestic output (commodity producing sectors only) in Saharanpur are 58 and 41 per cent respectively as compared to about 80 and 18 per cent respectively in the state as a whole. This clearly underlines the important role which industry has come to acquire in the economy of the district.

However, when we look at the village level data we find that this level of economic diversification is not to be found there. Even though Rankhandi is a fairly large and prosperous village situated not far from the tehsil town of Deoband, and is quite developed agriculturally, yet agriculture remains the mainstay of the bulk of population. There is hardly any industry in the village. Some of the traditional industries seem to have disintegrated and only a small percentage of the work force is engaged in industry. In fact less than 1 per cent were categorised as industrial workers in 1981 as compared to 6.8 per cent in 1971, and all of them were engaged in household industries.

It is thus quite clear that even in a developed district like Saharanpur the pattern of development is quite uneven. The development of rural areas seems to be dependent on agriculture while industrial development is confined to the urban areas which shows the operation of the dualistic model of development even at the district level. It is quite evident that this process can only lead to the widening of the gap between the rural and urban areas

leading to widespread unrest and social problems and tensions. This situation, needs to be remedied by bringing about a balanced development of the rural areas as well. Perhaps one way to do this could be the establishment of agro-based industries in the rural areas.

If we look at the agriculture sector, which is the major source of livelihood, we find that the land holding pattern is also different in the village as compared to the district. The proportion of medium and small holdings is higher at the village level in relation to the district. Cultivation is the main activity of the workforce and the percentage of female workers is very small in the village. Agricultural labourers have increased by about 11 per cent during a period of 10 years. Female participation among agricultural labourers emerged in 1981 which was nil during 1971 in the village.

Agriculture, however, is far from stagnant and there are clear trends to show that it is becoming modernised and commercialised. The spread of irrigation facilities is a pointer towards this fact. Canals and tubewells are the major sources of irrigation both at the village and district levels. It is notable that at the village level canals and at district level tubewells are the dominant sources of irrigation. Net irrigated area was about 85 per cent in the village in 1981 out of which 62 per cent was irrigated by canals and 35.06 per cent by other sources whereas at the district level 67.12 per cent of the net irrigated area was irrigated by tubewells and 31.87 per cent by canals which is a reversal of the pattern prevailing in the village.

In conclusion it is also important to consider the question of literacy. Literacy plays a vital role in the process of development. The rate of literacy in the village of Rankhandi was 33.54 per cent which is higher than that of the district i.e. 29.47 per cent in 1981. Female literacy was nil in 1971 which rose to 20.64 per cent in 1981 in the village as compared to 18.05 per cent in the district. This trend also shows that there is greater interest among village people towards female literacy. Broadly, this village is not representative of other villages which are undeveloped in regards to literacy.





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